reduce unit cost of tobacco and thus increase its price competitiveness in the world markets.

Smuggling of rare animals from India

2824. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister 0f ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleaed to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article which appeared in the Sunday Review of the 'Times of India' of 28th February, 1988 under the heading 'The animal baggers', wherein it has been stated thaf rare animals and birds are being shipped out of India *via,* Bangladesh and Nepal; and

(b) if so, what steps Government, are taking to check such a practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R, AN-SARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, the Regional Deputy Directors of Wildlife Preservation and the Chief Wildlife Wardens of the State Governments have been requested to exercise greater vigilance and to check the smuggling of wild animals and their products.

Loans to poor families

2825. SHRI A JIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that in 1985 about 47,000 units which had been advanced loans of Rs. ten lakhs and above had an outstanding amount of about Rs. 24,000 crores against them;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the recovery position of small loans of less than Rs. 10,000 advanced to the poor people is far better than the repayment and recovery position from the above units; and

(c) if so, what initiatives are being taken by Government to extend small loans of Rs. 10,000 and below to more poor famines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS TN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FA-LEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that the data on bank credit giving information on loans below Rs. 10,000 were collected for the last time in June, 1983. Thereafter this lower limit was revised to Rs. 25,000/-. Therefore, separate information for loans below Rs. 10,000/-is not available.

(c) It hag been Government's continuous endeavour to extend the benefit of credit by Public Sector Banks to Weaker Sections of society. Banks have bewn asked to extend 10 per cent of th«ir total outstanding advances to Weaker Sections and by the end of September, 1987 the outstanding advances of Public Sector Banks to Weaker Sections were of the order of Rs. 6506 crores constituting 11.4 per ^ent of their total advances.

Proper utilisation of amount advanced under SEPUV and SEEUY

2826. SHRI A JIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3988 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th August, 1987 and state:

(a) what percentage out of the 2.67 lakh people covered by SEPUP and 6.56 lakh people under the SEEUY have properly utilised the amount advanced to them;

(b) what percentage out of them have actually risen above the poverty line;

(c) what measures are being taken to ensure the proper utilisation of the amount sanctioned and for

proper selection of persons living below the poverty line under these schemes;

(4) in what manner these schemes are being monitored by the Central and State Governments; and

(e) whether Government propose to consider the involvement of non-officials, experts and academicians also in the monitoring of these projects so that the reported gross misuse of funds and improper selection of beneficiaries is checked?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FA-LEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the data reporting system under Self-Employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP) and Self-Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) do not generate the information in the manner asked for. A study conducted in 26 States|Union Territories in respect of SEEUY loans during 1985 revealed that beneficiaries were able to set up units in 76 per cent of cases assisted. The SEPUP Scheme was launched from September 1. 1986 and the impact of the scheme will be known after it ie in operation for some time.

(W The objectives of bath the schemes are to provide self employment opportunities. While assistance under SEEUY is given where the beneficiary's annual family income does not exceed R6. 10,000/-, in the case of SEPUP beneficiary'g monthly income should not exceed Rs. 600/-.

(c) Under SEEUY Scheme, the DIC Task Force constituted for the purpose selects the beneficiaries. Under SEPUP selection of beneficiarie-; is done by a Committee of Bankers. The Banks' branches are required to appraise the applications and examine the viability of the proposed activity before sanctioning ioans. The banks' are also required to supervise and monitor the end-use of funds advanced by them. In the case of mis-utilisation of funds' the bank may recall the entire amount of loan.

(d) Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries coordinates monitoring of SEEUY Scheme at the Central level. There are also moni toring cells at the State level. On the basis of periodical reports submitted by DIC/State Directorate Industries, progress under the Scheme is review ed by banks in DCC|SLBC meeljng* in which State Government repre sentatives «l«o participate.

(e) There is a District Level Ad visory Committee consisting, inter* alia, of non-officials including MP* and MLAs for over-seeing the func tioning of DlCs including implemen tation of the SEEUY Scheme. SEPUP is implemented by public sector banks. There is no proposals at pre-sent for associating non-officialj i» any other way in SEEUY &s well us SEPUP Schemes.

Lowering of hnoprt. duty on electronic components

2827. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has suggested lowering of import duties on components and also f°r a lree A°w 0I foreign funds and technology for establishing an electronic industry in India;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Indian electronics industry on the said suggestion Of the World Bank: and

(c) what decision Government have* taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FA-LEIRO): (a) to (c) The World Bank